

From: [REDACTED]
To: <acameron@cde.ca.gov>
Date: 12/9/2005 6:09:34 PM
Subject: CAHSEE

Hello, I am sorry I am unable to make it to Sacramento to speak, which I would love to do. I am told that my son [REDACTED] is the "poster child" of why the CAHSEE is such a problem. He has completed 4 years of classes (90% regular ed), including all requirements for graduation. He has received A's and B's in his classes. He has performed over 60 hours of community service. However, with his learning disability he is unable to retain his math times tables, through no fault of his own. He has suffered through hearing loss, vision difficulties, learning difficulties, and has risen to and above the occasion, surpassing all expectations. He is much beloved by his teachers for his wit and charm. He flies an airplane and writes a restaurant review column for our local newspaper. He will be unable to go on to college without his HS diploma, which will not happen if he is forced to pass the CAHSEE. He is a brilliant child with learning difficulties. There should be some exceptions made for ESL and sped-ed kids at least. I hereby voice my passionate support for RIGOROUS STANDARDS-BASED COURSE EQUIVALENT MODEL method of evaluation for senior high school students. Failing in the big picture because of 1 test is ludicrous, after passing over 60 courses in biology, economics, government, etc. It comes down to 1 math test?? Please do everything in your power to stop this travesty in its tracks, before thousands of teenagers who would be productive college students are stuck in THEIR tracks, severely limiting their future and self esteem. Thank you, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], CA.

PS you are authorized to read this in the meeting 12/15 in my stead, if at all possible.